

OFFICIAL GAZETTE

GOVERNMENT OF GOA

EXTRAORDINARY

No. 2

GOVERNMENT OF GOA

Department of Elections

State Election Commission

Order

5/3/99-2000/SEC

Whereas the superintendence, direction and control of elections to the Panchayats at all levels and Municipalities in the State are vested by Chapter IX and IX-A, respectively, of the Constitution of India, in the State Election Commission, Goa.

And whereas with a view to prevent malpractice of impersonation at the election and in the interest of purity of elections and conduct of such elections in a fair and efficient manner, it is necessary and expedient to direct the production of Identity of voters at the general election or bye-election to Panchayat at all levels or a Municipality.

Now therefore, in exercise of powers conferred by Article 243-K and 243-ZA of the Constitution of India read with provisions and Section 237 of the Goa Panchayat Raj Act, I Prabhakar Timble, State Election Commissioner, Goa hereby direct as follows:

In regard to the Identification of voters, wherein if in an election the Presiding Officer or the Polling Officer is of the opinion that a voter's identity is doubtful and is committing an offence of impersonation or where any candidate, election agent or polling agent makes challenge and is ready and willing to comply with the procedure prescribed in respect of challenged votes, the Presiding Officer or the Polling Officer shall, in addition to any other provisions made by or under the provisions of the Act and Rules, with regard to identification

of the voters, at the polling station, require the voter or the elector to produce, at the time of polling any ONE of the following identity:

- Photo Identity Card issued by the Election Commission of India or
- Photo Identity Card issued by any Department of the Central or State Government or
- Passport or
- Student Photo identity card issued TO by a recognized educational institution or
- Ration Card issued by the Directorate of Civil Supplies wherein the name of the voter or elector is entered.
- Any other evidence which satisfies the Presiding Officer.

If any such voter or elector refuses or fails to produce such identity or evidence as specified under (a) to (f) above, he shall not be entitled to be supplied with any ballot paper or to record his vote at the election.

It should be noted that the possession of identity as specified under (a) to (f) is not a substitute for an entry in the list of voters of an electoral roll and will not automatically entitle the possessor thereof to vote in an election. The right to vote will continue to be governed strictly in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Act and rules made thereunder.

Prabhakar Timble, State Election Commissioner.

Panaji, 14th January, 2000.